

REMARKS

This amendment is being filed after the filing of a notice of appeal, but before the filing of an appeal brief, and should place the application in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments and allowance of all pending claims. *See* MPEP §1207.

The final Office action, dated August 27, 2003, indicated that claims 7-15 are allowed and that claims 19-27 included allowable subject matter.

Claim 19 has been re-written in independent form and incorporates the limitations of the claim from which it depended. Therefore, claim 19 should be in condition for allowance. Claims 17-18 and 20-27 depend directly or indirectly from claim 19 and should, therefore, be in condition for allowance as well.

Claims 1-6 and 16 have been cancelled.

Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney should there be any unresolved issues.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/29/2004

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